Dear Paul, L. Mat 4/11/91

Just as I was trying to convince myself that I waa running out of steam and should knock off for the day the UPS man came with as cassette of "Melvin and Howard." The title meant nothing to me because I've not gone to the movies (or plays lectures, concerts or anything else that requires me to sit for more than 20 minutes at a time with my legs down) in more than 15 years.But when I turned it over and saw who co-starred with Jason Robards!!! I assumed this is your thoughtfulness. My wife was excited when she saw that, too. So, we do thank you and we do appreciate it very much. We'll look at it the first night there is no Baltimore Orioles game. You an your wife may enjoy an explanation of this.

My legs have been encased in venous supports, from the toes to the crotch, since 1975. Before long I developed a dry-skin problem. (The veins were shot before I was hospitalized.) The family doctor told me to take those gadgets off and sit with my legs uncovered and elevated for an hour a day until the skin showed signs of improving. Well, for a man who loves to read, that was no torture at all. But one day my wife noticed that I was not enjoying the book I was reading. She asked me if I was bored, I said I was, and then she told me, "Remember when we were first married - when you did not have to work on a Sunday and there was a Senators or Redskins game on the radio you used to listen to them?" I did remember. That was when I painted or stained the unpainted furniture that was all we could afford in those days of the still-lingering Great Depression. (Yup, I'm that old- 78 this last Monday.) Then she added that I had never looked at either a baseball or a football game on TV, which was true, and that she had noticed that in the TV highlights there was a daytime Orioles game on a Baltimore station. She asked if I'd like to look at it, it sounded like a great idea, and she sat where she usually sits, in her chair to the left of mine, snd watched the game with me. When it was over she said,"I like the Orioles better than the Yankees. They are better people." I had never thought of any sports that way, hadn't had time for any in years, although when young I sued to report them, and before long I concluded that she was quite correct. Especially as we learned more about them. The Orioles are first-rate people, giving of themelves and now much and well-copied by others.

My wife was raised in a village that had fewer than 100 people, where there was a single phone line with the most primitive hand-cranked phones that were not replaced until World War II, with more than the usual sexism, had never played or watched a ball game, but she got hooked on the Orioles. To the degree that she has actually scored the games for at least six years. It was more importaht to us because we can't go to the movies, etc.

We used to be real movie fans but when the nature of the movies changed, while we were farming, a seven-day occupation of very long days, we just lost interest in them. She still looks at some on TV but by the time most are on I'm asleep because I remain and enjoy being an early riser. By the way, she leaves the scored games for me to pick up when I left off in going to bed.

We still have and used a table and a variety of chairs that I stained and a step-ladder of the kind they used to make for kitchens and a barstool that I painted. And the paint has held up, as has the stain! More, I got the paint and the stain in what we used to have five-and-ten-cent stores.

If I did not tell you, days I'm working on a book on the King assassination I had to lay aside when I got restricted in the number of times I could use stairs and could not stand to search files. A friend of years ago, a man of means, was here for me to help a son with a book. When he leanred that I had laid that book aside, he asked me if I could get a student to help me part-time. I said I could andd he said he'd pay for it. So, In a few minutes, a bright, pleasant, intelligence and conscientious girl from the fine local college will be here and she'll retrieve and copy the documents I've got listed for her to retrieve, copy and restore to their original place in the files. Which then will continue to be as I got them when they find their final resting place at her college. I'm concentrating on having at hand the many, many pages I'll use in this writing or, if I am not able to complete it, it will be possible for someone else to do that. I'm writing the parts that another can't.

To update you on Greg Stone, one of the envelopes he left someplace his sister sent to my friend Jerry McKnight, history professor at this college. It held the relevant pages of Sylvia Maagher's will. After Greg's will was read, she sent him, or maybe the lawyer did, the relevant pages of Greg's. So the records are to remain at Hood and as I'dsuggested to Greg, never dreaming that he had killing himself in mind, he wants Roger Feinman to go over them to remove what should be removed.

About 4-5 weeks after I wrote Oliver Stone at Camelot I got a phone call from a Jane Rosconi on his taff. They were in Dallas. She sounded pleasant and pleased, which surprised me because there was nothing in my letter that should have pleased any of them. She said they had just gotten the letter and were delighted to have it and asked if Stone might phone me the next day. I said sure and the next day hasn't come. I guess they read the letter and I have reason to believe that if he is capable of being uncomfortable it made him a bit uncomfortable about parts of his script. I heard from Dallas this week, from someone who had agreed to be involved and then decided against it, as he said others, including at least one TV station, also did, that the script has been rewritten a number of times, that they are keeping even the title secret. As I understand it, not having seen Publishers Weekly, there is a story, an ad or both saying that Garrison's fairy tale is being issued by Warner toward the end of the year retitled "Kennedy". Obscene! Boy could I do a book on that indecency. Both of them, book and movie, unseen! Somebody should because it will be the most widely seen disinformation and misinformation. Stone has bought the rights to the nutty books to add content to Garrison's fiction and just today I got a letter from an unpublished nutty buff in Canada telling me they'd been in touch witth him. Again, many and sicnere thanks and best wishes, Harold